## Remarks:

Prior to examination of the present application, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the present PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT. The present PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is filed to eliminate the multiple dependent claims present in the priority application as filed.

Applicant submits that the claims pending, namely claims 1-7 are in condition for allowance and respectfully and earnestly solicits early indication of same.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution and allowance of the present application, or address any outstanding formal issues, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

Mitchell J. Weinstein Reg. No. 37,963

December 3, 2003

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

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